

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS: SIX-PARTY SUMMIT
MEETING

SUMMARY. IN MEETING APRIL 18, PRIMIN FUKUDA AND LEADERS OF
FIVE OPPOSITION PARTIES REACHED CONSENSUS THAT EXPEDITIOUS
PASSAGE OF TERRITORIAL SEA AND FISHERIES ZONE BILLS WOULD
STRENGTHEN JAPAN'S NEGOTIATING HAND WITH SOVIETS OVER FISHERIES
ISSUE. OPPOSITION, INCLUDING JSP AND JCP, WERE SEVERELY CRITICAL
OF SOVIET POSTURE, AND LATTER ISSUED EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG
STATEMENT NOTING THAT SOVIET ATTITUDE WAS "UNACCEPTABLE" TO
JAPANESE PEOPLE. SOVIET INTRANSIGENCE HAS CLEARLY TOUCHED
SENSITIVE EMOTIONAL CHORD AND FORGED UNITY ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ISSUE EXEPTIONAL IN POST-WAR PERIOD. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN NEARLY THREE-HOUR MEETING APRIL 18, PRIMIN FUKUDA AND LDP
OBTAINED AGREEMENT AND SUPPORT FROM FIVE OPPOSITION PARTY
LEADERS ON MEASURES JAPAN WOULD TAKE IN PREPARATION FOR RENEWED
FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION. PARTY LEADERS AGREED
THAT GOJ SHOUD MAINTAIN FIRM STAND WITH SOVIETS ON TERRITORIAL
ISSUE AND AGREED ON NEED FOR EARLY DIET PASSAGE OF TWELVE-MILE

TERRITORIAL SEA AND 200-NAUTICAL MILE FISHERIES ZONE BILS. JSP, JCP AND CGP WERE CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT TERRITORIAL SEA DRAFT FOR PERMITTING FREE TRANSIT THROUGH FIVE IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL STRAITS, ALLEGING IT WAS CONTRADICTION OF JAPAN'S THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES. PARTIES AGREED, HOWEVER, TO WORK OUT DETAILS THROUGH FURTHER CONSULTATIONS. PARTIES ALSO AGREED ON NEED TO WORK MEASURES TO COMPENSATE FISHERMEN WHO HAVE ALREADY LOST VALUABLE FISHING TIME AND WHO ARE LIKELY TO LOSE MORE BEFORE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH SOVIET UNION.

2. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THIS UNPRECEDENTED MEETING OF PARTY LEADERS ON MAJOR DIPLOMATIC ISSUE, JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO ISSUED SURPRISINGLY STRONG STATEMENT ROUNDLY CONDEMNING SOVIETS FOR NEGATIVE ATTITUDE IN FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. STATEMENT CRITICIZED SOVIETS FOR DISREGARDING PRESENT JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERIES AGREEMENT, AND FOR ATTEMPTING TO DRAW LINE AROUND "JAPAN'S HISTORIC TERRITORY" WHILE INSISTING THAT SOVIET SHIPS BE ALLOWED TO FISH WITHIN JAPAN'S TWELVE NAUTICAL MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS. NOTING THAT SUCH AN UNREASONABLE ATTITUDE WAS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE TO JAPANESE PEOPLE, JCP DEMANDED THAT SOVIETS WITHHOLD ESTABLISHMENT OF 200 NAUTICAL MILE FISHERIES ZONE IN AREAS AROUND JAPAN'S NORTHERN TERRITORIES. JCP ASSERTED THAT JAPAN SHOULD ESTABLISH TWELVE NAUTICAL MILE TERRITORIAL SEA IMMEDIATELY, APPLYING THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES TO ALL TERRITORIAL WATERS, INCLUDING FIVE STRAITS, AND ESTABLISH 200 NAUTICAL MILE FISHERY CONTROL WATERS IN AREAS ADJACENT TO SOVIET UNION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. OTHER OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS ISSUED SIMILAR STATEMENTS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPPORT FOR JAPAN'S POSITION IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION. APRIL 19 MEDIA TREATMENT OF SOVIETS WAS NO MORE FAVORABLE. MAINICHI CARRIED FRONTPAGE STORY TO EFFECT SOVIETS NOW DEMANDING THREE BILLION YEN (TEN MILLION DOLLARS PLUS) COMPENSATION FOR COMPROMISE OF LATEST SOVIET TECHNOLOGY IN LAST AUTUMN'S MIG-25 INCIDENT. APRIL 19 PRESS ALSO CARRIED PROMINENT PICTURES AND STORIES OF (ROUTINE) SOVIET NAVAL PRESENCE IN EAST CHINA SEA AND JAPAN SEA. IT ALSO REPORTED TRAVAILS OF FIFTEEN MEMBER SUPRA-PARTISAN DIET DELEGATION WHICH FINALLY RECEIVED VISAS TO MOSCOW DAY TALKS BROKEN OFF AND WHICH WAS HARANGUED UPON ARRIVAL ON SUBJECT OF MIG BY SOVIET OFFICIALS.

4. COMMENT. SOVIET INTRANSIGENCE ON FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS HAS CLEARLY TOUCHED EMOTIONAL, NATIONALISTIC CHORD THROUGHOUT JAPAN. SIX-PARTY SUMMIT MEETING IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT FOR FIRST TIME, AS NOTED BY JSP SOURCE, A GENUINE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TOOK PLACE LEADING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSENSUS ON IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE.

5. GRANTED THAT IN THIS PRE-ELECTION PERIOD ALL PARTIES WOULD BE ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE ON FISHERIES ISSUE, APPEARANCE OF NATIONAL UNITY, INCLUDING JSP AND JCP, IS IMPORTANT IN ASSURING EARLY PASSAGE OF BILLS, STRENGTHENING GOJ NEGOTIATING HAND AND CONCEIVABLY AS PRECEDENT FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE ALL-PARTY CONSENSUS, SO CONSPICUOUSLY LACKING IN POST-WARY JAPAN, ON OTHER IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC ISSUES.
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